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BANGALORE, THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1907.

PART III.

Legislative Measures and Rules thereunder.

NOTIFICATION.

No. Fl. 9082—*S. R.* 140-06-1, *dated* 8*th June* 1907.

The Government of His Highness the Maharaja have been pleased to frame the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by the Mysore Stamp and Court Fees Regulations, 1900, and of all other powers enabling them in this behalf :—

No. Fl. 9083-125—S. R. 140-06-1, dated Bangalore, 8th June 1907.

"Order.—The Government observe that the existing arrangements in regard to the administration of stamp revenue are not sufficient either for developing the revenue from that source or for protecting the interests of Government against fraud, and that, as a consequence, the stamp revenue of the State has been on the decline during the past few years.

2. With a view to remedy this state of things, the Government resolved, as an administrative measure, to appoint a Commissioner of Stamps and entrust the functions of this office to the Inspector-General of Registration without prejudice to the other duties at present assigned to the holder of the last mentioned appointment. The duty of the *ex-officio* Stamp Commissioner will be to administer the stamp revenue, subject to the control of Government, and to see that the Stamp Laws and Rules are not evaded.

3. The Excise Divisional Officers and such other officers as Government may determine from time to time will be appointed Inspectors of Stamps under the Commissioner of Stamps. The Excise Divisional Officers are appointed accordingly *ex-officio* Inspectors of Stamps.

4. The Commissioner of Stamps (as also each Inspector of Stamps within his jurisdiction) is expected to inspect the record rooms of Civil, Criminal and Revenue Courts, with a view to ascertain whether the Stamp Laws and Rules are strictly carried out, and whether any frauds are committed by the omission to deface stamps once used. He will also see that the standing orders respecting the indent, supply, store, safe custody and vend of stamps in each district are not violated ; and that periodical returns are promptly and punctually submitted, and tabulated and compiled in his own office for submission to higher authority, whose attention he will

invite to any administrative points worthy of notice. The Commissioner of Stamps is requested to issue the needful instructions for the guidance of the Inspectors of Stamps.

5. The duties connected with the indenting for and the custody and supply of stamps will be performed by the respective District Treasury Officers as *ex-officio* District Stamp Officers.

6. The existing arrangements for the control and supervision of the Stamp Manufactory are not very efficient, and Government consider that a thorough overhauling of the arrangements connected with the manufacture of stamps is urgently necessary in the interests of the stamp revenue. The Commissioner of Stamps will accordingly be entrusted with the supervision of the Stamp Manufactory also.

7. The powers of the Chief Controlling Revenue Authority under the Mysore Stamp and Court Fees Regulations will remain vested in Government as heretofore.

8. The control over the Central, Branch and Local Depôts will be vested in the Commissioner of Stamps as the authority responsible for the provincial administration of the stamp revenue. The Superintendent of Stamps will be subordinate to the Commissioner of Stamps, and it will be one of the duties of the former officer to bring to the notice of the latter the fall in the stock of stamps in any local depôt below the prescribed amount. The District Stamp Officers, on the other hand, should report to the Commissioner of Stamps the failure on the part of the Superintendent of Stamps to speedily comply with their indents. The Commissioner of Stamps will be competent to direct in any particular case that the supply of stamps to be kept in any particular branch depôt shall be equal to the probable demand for three months.

9. With a view to enable Government to see how far inspections are regularly conducted, the Commissioner of Stamps should append to his annual report, (which should be submitted to Government not later than the 1st October of each year) a statement showing the amount of stamp inspection work performed and remaining to be performed in each district."

By Order,
K. S. CHANDRASEKHARA AIYAR,
Secy. to Govt., Gen. & Rev. Depts.